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Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health




FOR THE YEAR
1958

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1958

Medical Officer of Health:

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

THOMAS H. FARRELL, C.R.S.H., D.P.H.H. (Hons.)

Additional Public Health Inspector:

H. H. FORD, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Clerk to the Council:

S. E. WILKINSON

Chairman of Council:

C. R. HARVEY, J.P., M.S.M.

Vice-Chairman:

MISS J. A. SMEDLEY, J.P.

Highways Committee Chairman:

A. E. F. SEARANCKE

Housing Committee Chairman:

W. J. C. BOWKER

To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch

Urban District Council:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my report for the year 1958.

It will be noticed that there is a variation in the presentation of the vital statistics. This is in accordance with the wishes of the Minister so that comparisons can be made.

The population, which appears to be steadily increasing, was 6,980 compared with 6,840 in 1957.

The birth rate (16.9) is higher than last year (13.2) and higher than that for England and Wales (16.4).

The death rate (10.8) is lower than last year (10.9), and lower than that for England and Wales (11.7).

The chief causes of death are from diseases associated with elderly people.

Of the 70 deaths, 4 were due to accidents of various kinds.

At the Hospital the new Outpatient Department and modern Operating Theatre will be opened shortly.

19 houses were completed during the year, making a total of 593 houses completed in the post-war period.

The total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year was 138, and the number of applications received during the year 41.

With respect to general housing conditions the position is rapidly deteriorating, due to the large proportion of old property in the area.

During the year, only 4 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, 1 Pneumonia and 3 Whooping Cough.

I am pleased to report a considerable increase in the number of children receiving primary immunisation against diphtheria.

The increase in the number receiving primary immunisation against diphtheria is probably due to the desire to be protected against Whooping Cough and the publicity associated with the poliomyelitis immunisation. I am unable to give any figures yet as regards the numbers receiving protection against poliomyelitis.

Three cases of Tuberculosis, all Pulmonary, were added to the register during the year, but only 1 was a new notification. There were no deaths.

I should like to express my thanks to the Staff of the Public Health Department of the County and to Dr. Mair and his staff in the Public Health Laboratory at Groby Road, Leicester, for their help and co-operation.

Finally, I must thank Mr. T. H. Farrell, Surveyor and Public Health Inspector and Mr. H. H. Ford, Additional Public Health Inspector, for their invaluable help during the year, and to you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and courtesy,

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Tel.: Coalville 144.

Belvoir Cottage, Coalville.

SECTION A

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area	6,162 acres
Population (Registrar General's estimate) ..	6,980
Number of Inhabited Houses	2,336
Rateable Value (at 31/12/58)	£80,796
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£318
Comparability factor—Births	0.99
Deaths	1.08

Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a market town, the chief industries of the District are:—Agriculture, Biscuit Making, Crisp Manufacture, Dairies, Soap Manufacturing and Glove Manufacturing. A number of workers engaged in Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking are residents in the town. There are also 4 Public Parks and an Open-Air Swimming Bath. No industry was noted as having a special injurious effect on the health of the population.

Vital Statistics

(Figures in brackets for England and Wales)

Live Births	119	
Live Birth Rate	16.9	(16.4)
Still Births	2	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	16.3	(21.6)
Total Births	121	
Infant Deaths	3	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ..	24.9	(22.5)
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate births	26.0	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate births	0	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 related live births	16.6	(16.2)
Percentage of illegitimate live births	4.1%	
Maternal deaths including abortion	0	
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ..	0	(0.43)

LIVE BIRTHS:			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	45	69	114
Illegitimate	..	..	1	4	5
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	..		46	73	119
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

STILL BIRTHS:			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	..	..	2	0	2
Illegitimate	..	..	0	0	0
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	..	..	2	0	2
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

DEATHS:	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	39	31	70
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Death Rate per 1,000 of population	..	..	10.8 (11.7)

Causes of Death in 1958

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	3	4
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	5	7	12
Coronary disease, angina	10	3	13
Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	1
Other heart disease	2	8	10
Other circulatory disease	0	3	3
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	3	1	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	5	1	6
Motor vehicle accidents	2	0	2
All other accidents	2	0	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	39	31	70

Death Rate from Total Maternal Causes per 1,000 Live and Still Births—0. (England and Wales 0.43.)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	0	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3	0	3

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—24.9 per 1,000 Live Births. (England and Wales—22.5 per 1,000 Live Births.)

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:—	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	2	0	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	2	0	2

Death Rate of Infants under 4 weeks of age: 16.6. (England and Wales—16.2).

Chief Causes of Death in 1958:—

Diseases of Heart and Circulation	39
Malignant Neoplasm (all forms)	12

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

HOSPITALS

All hospitals are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, with the exception of a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes. The County Homes for aged and infirm people are under the County Council. When they become ill, they are the responsibility of the Hospital Board.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH AND DISTRICT HOSPITAL

This is the only hospital in the area, and is under the Leicester No. 2 Hospital Management Committee.

The new out patients' department and a modern operating theatre with improved facilities will be officially opened on the 29th June, 1959.

No. of In-Patients (Medical, Surgical and Gynaecological cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	469
No. of Maternity Cases	..	..	..	..	..	..	347
Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	294
Outpatients' attendances (including casualties and ante-natal cases)	..	..	..	..	..	..	5934
Operations	..	..	..	..	..	..	368

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist Schoolroom, Ashby. An Ante-Natal Clinic is held at the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, and the Tuberculosis Clinic at Markfield Sanatorium. The Tuberculosis Clinic is under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The County Council is responsible for all ambulance facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

NURSING IN THE HOME

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the home is under the County Council. A Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Clinic at the Royal Infirmary, Leicester, and visits the patients in their homes.

HEALTH VISITING

This work is provided, as before, by the County Council, and is ably carried out in the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The examinations performed on behalf of the District in the County Laboratory are as follows:—

Blood	..	..	..	..	..	1
Throat and Nose Swabs				..	..	1
Faeces and Urine	..			..	..	13
Sputa	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pleural Fluid	..	..	..	..	..	1
Waters	..	..	..	..	..	9
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	5
						<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	..	..	34
						<hr/>

Generally, there is co-operation between the local authority and the services provided by the Executive Council and the Hospital Board, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The water is supplied by the Ashby and Swadlincote Joint Water Board and is satisfactory in quantity and quality.

Particulars of Water Supply to Dwelling Houses in the District:—
Internal Mains Water Supply—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 2,241. Estimated Population, 6,484.
Mains Water from External Standpipes—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 60. Estimated Population, 250.
Well Water Supply—

No. of Dwelling Houses, 32. Estimated Population, 106.

Apart from a few isolated dwellings, the whole of the urban area is supplied with water from the public mains.

Number of cases in which Pipe supply was substituted for Well Water—0.

No wells were closed or cleansed, and no samples of well water taken for analysis.

Sewage Disposal

Number of cesspools constructed during the year—Nil.

Number of cesspools abolished during the year—Nil.

Total number of cesspools in District on 31st December, 1958—
11.

Closet Accommodation

Total number in District on 31st December, 1958 (Estimated)—

(a)	Privies	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
(b)	Pail Closets	..	..	..	..	..	28
(c)	Water Closets	..	..	..	..	..	2305

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year:—

(a)	Privies	..	..	..	..	..	2
(b)	Pail Closets	..	..	..	..	..	0

No grant is made towards the cost of conversion.

Number of privies (middens) converted to pail closets during the year: Nil.

Earth closets, privies, ashpits, and cesspools are cleansed by Council workmen, and disposed of on arable land and ploughed in.

Pail closets are emptied weekly, and contents disposed of in the same way.

Public Cleansing

Domestic refuse is removed weekly by direct labour over the whole area by one Dennis refuse vehicle, and the contents disposed of to a controlled tip.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

(a)	Total number of complaints received	..	635
(b)	Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	.. ..	536
(c)	Total number of defects or nuisances dealt with	.. .. .	853

Particulars of Inspections made

Animal Keeping	..	..	..	..	4
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	12
Dairies	..	..	..	..	28
Draining Works	..	..	..	..	42
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	..	..	..	..	546
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	192
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	4
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	..	..	..	75
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	46
Schools	..	..	..	..	5
Shops	..	..	..	..	92
Slaughter-houses	..	..	..	..	412
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	3
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	..	..	..	..	6
Verminous and Dirty Premises	..	..	..	..	2
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	54
Workshops, Outworkers, etc.	..	..	..	..	38
Other Inspections	..	..	..	..	99

Total 1,660

Notices

Preliminary Notices

		<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January, 1958	..	4	8
Issued during year	.. ..	23	16
Complied with during year	.. ..	25	21
Statutory action necessary	.. ..	0	0
Outstanding 31st December, 1958	..	2	3

Statutory Notices

Statutory Notices, 0.

Summary action, Nil.

Shops

Particulars of action taken during the year under the provisions of Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

	<i>Outstanding: 1st Jan., 1958</i>	<i>Defects found</i>	<i>Defects remedied</i>	<i>Outstanding 31st Dec., 1958</i>
Sanitary				
Conveniences ..	0	1	1	0
Temperature ..	0	0	0	0
Ventilation ..	0	0	0	0
Washing Facilities	1	0	1	0
Lighting	0	0	0	0
Facilities for taking Meals ..	0	0	0	0

Regulated Buildings

<i>Class of Building</i>	<i>No. in District</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>	<i>General Conditions</i>
Tent, Vans, Sheds, etc. ..	2	6	0	satisfactory
Offensive Trades ..	1	4	0	satisfactory

Eradication of Bed Bugs

No action necessary.

The Pet Animal Act, 1951

There are 3 licensed Pet Shops.

Rag Flock and other Filling Material Act, 1951

No premises in the area.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Inspection of district, including baiting of public sewers. Treatment of infested premises. One part-time Rodent Operator.

Schools

No action taken.

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public

No. in Area:—

(a) Publicly owned	..	..	..	..	1
(b) Privately owned	..	..	..	..	0
No. of Inspections	..	..	..	..	40

SECTION D

Housing

Houses completed during the year

	<i>Prefab.</i> <i>Per-</i> <i>manent</i> <i>Type</i>	<i>Per-</i> <i>manent</i> <i>Type</i>	<i>Aver. Cost</i> <i>per House</i>	<i>Aver. Rent</i> <i>inclusive or</i> <i>exclusive of</i> <i>Rates</i>
Local Authority ..	Nil	Nil		All Owner
By Private Enterprise	Nil	19	£2,300	occupiers

Houses in course of erection at end of year:

By Local Authority ..	Nil
By Private Enterprise ..	33

Total number of Post-War Houses completed

By Local Authority ..	..	..	..	..	380
By Private Enterprise ..	..	..	..	..	213

Applications for Council Houses

Total number at end of year ..	..	..	..	..	138
Applications received during the year ..	..	..	..	..	41
Number of Council houses in the district prior to the War (1939) ..	..	..	..	..	162

Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding

Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ..	Nil
Number of families dwelling therein	Nil
Number of persons dwelling therein	Nil
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	Nil
Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	Nil
Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

The position with respect to general house conditions is rapidly deteriorating due to large proportion of old property in the district.

Housing Summary

Total number of houses occupied in District ..	2,333
Total number of Council houses occupied in District	542

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Ice Cream

Number of Premises registered:—

(a) Manufacture and retail	..	..	..	0
(b) Manufacture only	..	..	..	0
(c) Retail only	..	..	..	22

All premises retail prepacked only.

Milk Supply

Dairies (other than Dairy Farms) and Distributors (Section 8 Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949):—

Number on Register—Dairies	..	..	..	3
Distributors	..	..	..	11
Number of Inspections made	..	..	..	28
Number of contraventions outstanding from previous year	..	..	..	0
Number of contraventions found during year	..	..	..	0
Number of contraventions remedied during year	..	..	..	0
Number of contraventions outstanding on 31st Dec., 1958	..	..	..	0

Bacteriological Milk Samples

None taken by Urban District Council.

Samples were taken by the County Council.

All satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued:—

Dealers' Licences—Pasteurised	..	..	..	3
Sterilised	..	..	..	1
Supplementary Licences—Pasteurised	..	..	..	3
Sterilised	..	..	..	Nil

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Particulars of Licences issued:—

Dealers' Licences	..	..	..	3
Supplementary Licences	..	..	..	3

Meat and Other Foods

No. of Slaughter Houses in Area	..	..	..	2
No. of Animals slaughtered elsewhere	..	..	..	Nil
No. of Animals examined elsewhere	..	..	..	Nil
No. of Inspections of meat at time of slaughter	..	..	..	3,549
No. of Knackers' Yards in Area	..	..	..	Nil
No. of visits to Knackers' Yards	..	..	..	Nil

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	908	112	7	1335	1187
Number inspected ..	908	112	7	1335	1187
All Diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcase condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	0	4
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	190	28	0	110	37
Percentage of number other than Tuberculosis ..	20%	25%	Nil	8%	3%
Tuberculosis only ..					
Whole carcase condemned	2	2	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	63	28	0	0	41
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	7%	25%	0%	0%	4%

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

1. Number of premises inspected 28
 Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 41
 Number of informal notices served 2
 Number of informal notices complied with 2
 Number of informal notices outstanding, 31st Dec. .. 0
 Number of formal notices served 0
2. No summary action taken.
3. No special steps, e.g., meetings, lectures, etc., taken.
4. There is only one local authority owned market in the district, which does not comply with the Regulations, and the stalls are to be modernised as soon as possible.

Preparations are being made for a Food Hygiene Conference to be held in Ashby-de-la-Zouch in 1959.

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc. 6
 Number of Inspections 53

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale

Number of Inspections 74

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1958

<i>Disease</i>		<i>Final numbers after correction</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Pneumonia .. ..	..	1	0	2
Whooping Cough ..	..	3	0	0
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		4	0	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Analysis Under Age Groups according to Registrar-General's Return 118d

<i>Age Period</i>								<i>Whooping Cough</i>
Under 1 year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
1—2 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3—4 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
5—9 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
10—14 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
15—24 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
25 and over .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
								<hr/>
								3
								<hr/>

								<i>Pneumonia</i>
3—4 years .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
								<hr/>
Total .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
								<hr/>

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Number of children who were immunised during the period
1st January—31st December, 1958

<i>Age at 31/12/58</i>	<i>Under 1</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
<i>i.e. born in year</i>	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949 & over	
Primary Immunisation	11	44	20	1	2	3	1	2	0	1	85
Booster Dose	0	0	0	0	14	44	11	1	1	0	71

**Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis
Register for the year 1958**

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
No. of cases on the Register at the commencement of year	18	10	3	1	32
No. of cases notified during the year	2	0	0	0	2
No. of cases added other than by formal notification ..	1	0	0	0	1
No. of cases removed from the Register	5	1	1	0	7
No. of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	16	9	2	1	28

Causes of Removal

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Left District	2	0	0	0	2
Cured	2	1	0	0	3
Lost sight of	0	0	1	0	1
Added in error	1	0	0	0	1
Total					<u>7</u>

There is free co-operation between the Local Authority and the Chest Physician, and every assistance is given in the ascertainment of contacts, rehousing and employment. A special clinic for contacts has been working very satisfactorily, and general practitioners have availed themselves fully of X-ray facilities.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Résumé of Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1958, previously sent to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service Headquarters, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>
Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	10	1
Factories not included in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	55	1
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	3	34	0
Total ..	<u>40</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>2</u>

2.—Cases in which defects were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases.)

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>	
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):—		
(a) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2
(b) Not separate for sexes ..	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	0	0
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

Part VIII of the Act Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>No. of Outworkers in August List required by Sec. 110</i>
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets ..	1

